Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1,116 Attorney Docket No.: 030817

Art Unit: 2142

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail client comprising:

means for transmitting an electronic mail via a mail server; and

means for storing information representing a plurality of mail servers and a priority order of the respective mail servers;

selection means for selecting a mail server for transmitting an electronic mail in accordance with the priority order stored in the means for storing; and

determining means for determining a type of failure that has occurred when the transmission of the electronic mail via the selected mail server fails, and for determining, in accordance with the type of failure determined, whether to select a mail server of next in priority order, to establish a connection again with the mail server that was selected at the time of the failure in the transmission of the electronic mail, or to cancel the transmission; and

a bypass permission table which stores data indicating whether or not it is possible for the means for transmitting to bypass the selected mail server and the selection means select the mail server of next in priority order for transmitting the electronic mail, wherein the bypass permission table can be formed and rewritten.

2. - 3. (Canceled)

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Attorney Docket No.: 030817

Art Unit: 2142

Application No. 10/632,863

4. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein when

the determining means determines that the type of failure is a failure in a connection with the

selected mail server, a mail server of the next in priority order is selected.

5. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 4, wherein when

the determining means determines the failure in the connection with the selected mail server, the

mail server of the next in order is selected immediately without waiting for an elapse of waiting

time.

6. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein when a

connection with the selected mail server is established but the determining means determines that

the type of failure is a temporary error generated during a communication, the connection is

established again with the mail server that was selected at the time of the failure in the

transmission of the electronic mail.

7. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein when

the determining means determines that the type of failure is a failure in transmission of the

electronic mail due to incorrect destination, the transmission is cancelled.

- 3 -

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Application No. 10/632,863 Attorney Docket No.: 030817 Art Unit: 2142

8. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 7, wherein when

the determining means determines the failure in transmission of the electronic mail due to the

incorrect destination, a message indicating such a fact is output, and the transmission is cancelled.

9. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, further

comprising:

a plurality of means for transmitting;

a plurality of destinations of the electronic mail; and

means for storing whether or not to select a mail server of next in priority order for each

means for transmitting or for each destination of the electronic mail.

10. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 9, further

eomprising a wherein the bypass permission table which stores data indicating whether or not to

select it is possible to bypass a selected mail server and select a mail server of next in priority

order for each means for transmitting or each destination of the electronic mail a mail server of

next in priority order for each means for transmitting or for each destination of the electronic

mail, wherein the bypass permission table can be formed and rewritten.

11. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein there is

a limit on whether or not to select a mail server of next in priority order according to a level of

authority of [[a]] the means for transmitting.

- 4 -

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 Attorney Docket No.: 030817

Application No. 10/632,863

Art Unit: 2142

12. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein [[a]] the means for transmitting can determine whether or not to select the mail server of next in priority order for each transmission of an electronic mail.

13. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, further comprising a mail server list which stores the plurality of mail servers and the priority order of the plurality of mail servers, wherein the mail server list is rewritable.

14. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for forming a transmission log;

wherein "transmission date and time", "destination", "mail server that was used", and "transmission result" are written in the transmission log.

15. (Original) The electronic mail client according to claim 14, wherein the transmission log is formed for each Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) connection.

16. (Original) The electronic mail client according to claim 14, wherein the transmission log is formed for each Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) transmission.

17. – 18. (Canceled)

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 Attorney Docket No.: 030817

Application No. 10/632,863

Art Unit: 2142

19. (Currently Amended) A recording medium storing a program for controlling an

electronic mail client which transmits an electronic mail via a mail server, the program

controlling the electronic mail client to perform a method, comprising:

storing information representing a plurality of mail servers and a priority order of the

respective mail servers;

selecting a mail server for transmitting an electronic mail in accordance with the stored

priority order;

determining a type of failure that has occurred when transmission of the electronic mail

via the selected mail server fails; and

determining, in accordance with the type of failure determined, whether to select a mail

server of next in priority order, to establish a connection again with the mail server that was

selected at the time of failure in the transmission of the electronic mail or to cancel the

transmission; and

determining, based on a rewritable bypass permission table, whether or not it is possible

to bypass the selected mail server for transmitting the electronic mail and to select the mail server

of next in priority order for transmitting the electronic mail.

20. (Cancelled)

- 6 -